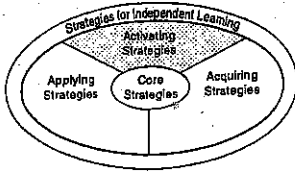


Vocabulary Strategies

Source:

Word Cycle

Success for all Learners: A Handbook on Differentiating Instruction K-12



The Word Cycle is an effective vocabulary building strategy. After modelling the strategy using words that are familiar to all students in the class, teachers provide students with nine vocabulary terms and ask them to build a cycle, identifying the relationship between all adjoining words. Students may make many alternative word connections, but they must be able to justify their choices for adjoining words. Teachers provide students with a blank "cycle" which can be completed by individual students using a Think-Pair-Share strategy, or by two students taking turns. (See Attachment 7.)

Purposes: 1. To help students become familiar with the unit vocabulary.

2. To activate and extend prior knowledge.

Steps:

1. The teacher lists nine vocabulary terms from the unit in the centre of the cycle.
2. The teacher asks a student to choose the initial two words and identify the connection between them. The words are placed in adjoining ovals, with the relationship between the words written in the band that connects these ovals.
3. Students continue this process until the cycle is complete.

Alternative:

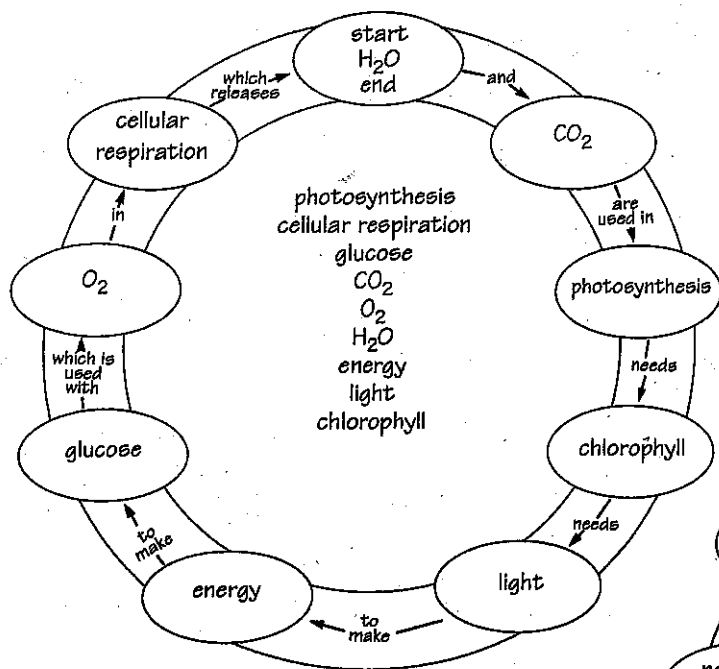
The Word Cycle also can be used as a strategy to evaluate students' knowledge of vocabulary. Rather than giving a test that asks for vocabulary definitions, the teacher can provide students with a Word Cycle that requires them to make relationships between words to indicate vocabulary knowledge.

Samples:

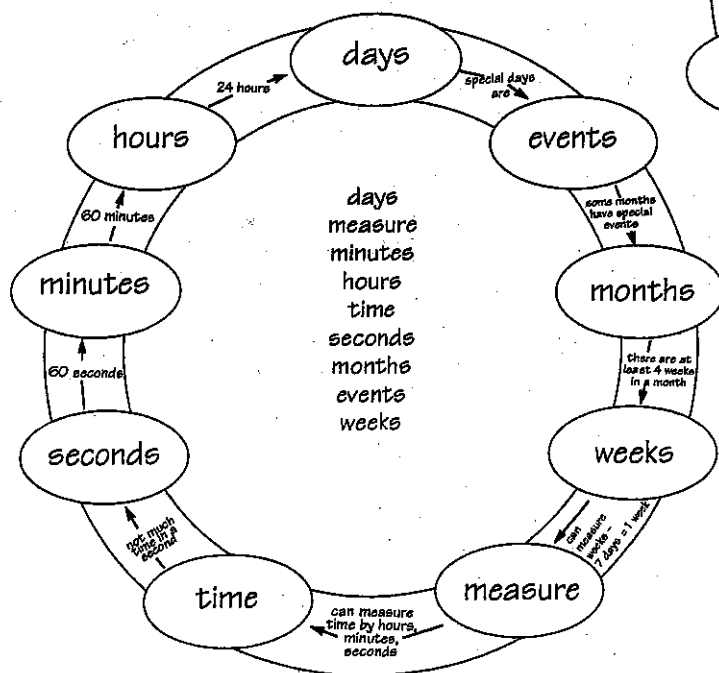
See the following page.

Samples:

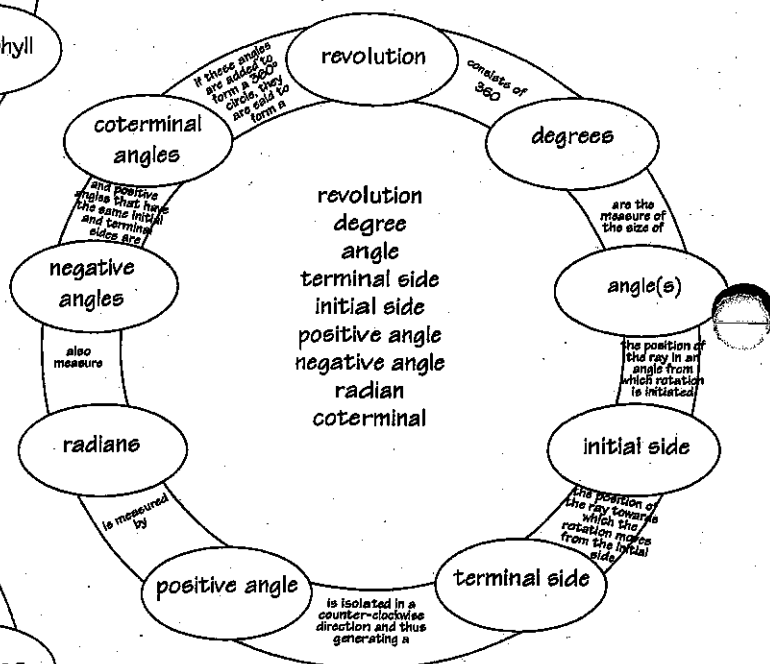
**Word Cycle
(Science Grade 7)**



**Word Cycle
(Grades 1-3 class)**

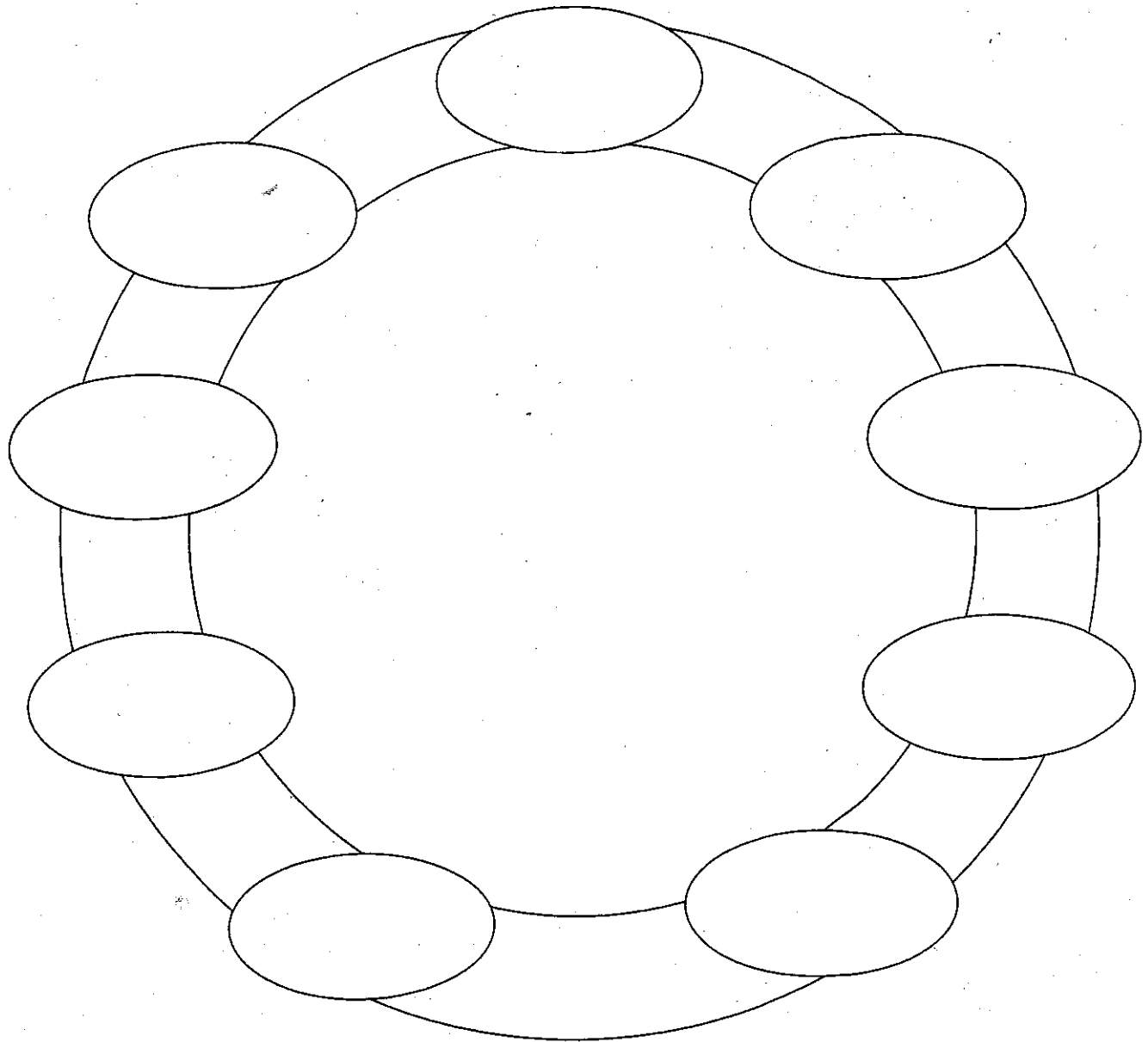


**Word Cycle
(Mathematics 40S)**



The word cycle to the left was completed after a lesson was taught. The teacher wrote the answers that students provided.

Word Cycle



Directions:

Read the list of words in the circle above. Select one word and place it in any oval. In the next oval, place another word that is related to the first. They could be synonyms, antonyms, steps in a process, examples of something, and so on. Be prepared to finish the statement "Word A is related to word B because" Write a note on the band in between the words to remind yourself of the relationship. Continue this process until you have placed all the words. Plan ahead; the last few words will be tricky to place.